

IDW

47

COVER A

SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG



ITO

STANLEY • FROESE • HERMS

SEGA®



STORY & ART
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OH...!

STORY SO FAR



WHERE ARE YOU?!

SIR! IS THERE A--

MY SON--HE'S MISSING! I HAVE TO FIND HIM.

HE'S ALWAYS WANDERING OFF INTO THE WOODS...



I SAW WHO DID IT. IT WAS A LADY WITH BIG SPIKES AND A BOY MY SIZE.

THE LADY MADE LIGHTNING WITH HER HANDS, THAT'S WHAT STARTED THE FIRE!



IF WE FOLLOW THE RIVER DOWNSTREAM, IT'LL LEAD BACK. ME N' RED HOT COME UP HERE ALL THE TIME.

IT'S BETTER THAN THE FIRE...

THEN DOWNSTREAM IT IS!



"WE DON'T HAVE THE RESOURCES TO PUT OUT THE FIRE, BUT WE CAN CREATE A PERIMETER TO CONTAIN ITS SPREAD."

"I CAN'T PROMISE EVERYTHING WILL GO PERFECTLY..."



AMY ROSE

Hammer-swinging Heroine.
Restoration ally.



TANGLE THE LEMUR

Excitable Hero.
Elastic-tailed brawler.



BELLE THE TINKERER

Clumsy Marionette.
Enthusiastic new-comer.

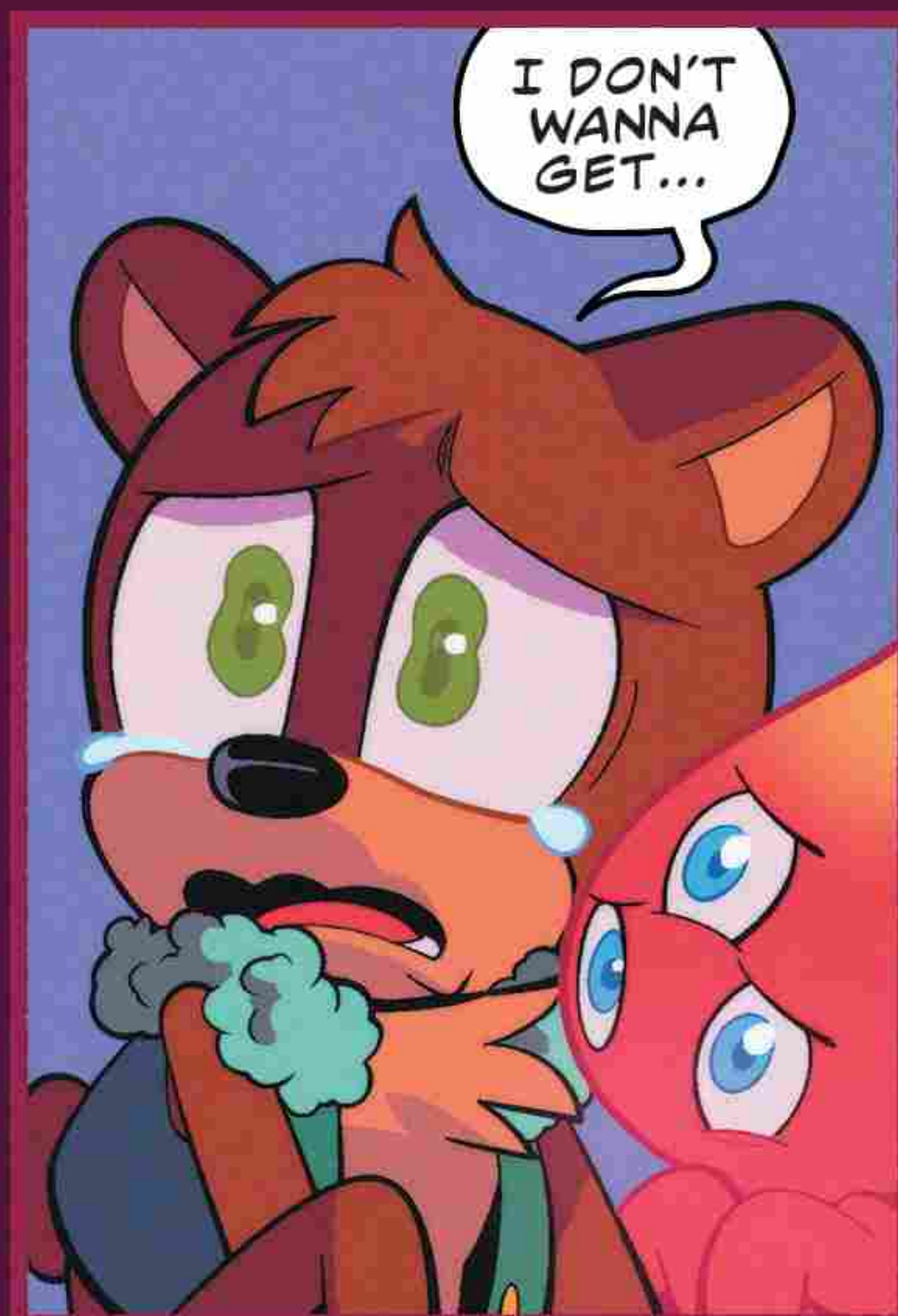


JEWEL THE BEETLE

Restoration Leader.
Tangle's best friend.









HOW ARE YOU ENJOYING THIS?!

HOW ARE YOU NOT?



I'VE WANTED TO BE AN ADVENTURER FOREVER.
DOING NEW THINGS, HELPING PEOPLE, JUST GOING FOR IT, LIKE WITH WHISPER...

WHO'S WHIS--
GYAH!

THWAK



...THIS IS WHAT I LOVE!

SWISH



BELIEVING IN YOURSELF LIKE THAT... IT DOESN'T COME EASILY TO EVERYONE. YOU'RE LUCKY.

HUH. NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT IT THAT WAY.

SPLASH

SHRRRRRRRR



WHUH-OH... EVERYBODY HANG ON TIGHT!

RASH



SHRRRAAAH







LOOKS LIKE THE CAMPGROUND'S STILL IN ONE PIECE, THAT'S GOOD!

FOR NOW...



THE FIREBREAK WON'T HOLD FOR--

--**BADNIK!**

WAIT! IT'S SAFE!

AT LEAST, WE THINK IT IS...!



IT HELPED US GET OUT OF THE WOODS. I GUESS IT'S DEFECTIVE?

A FRIENDLY MOTOBUG? THERE'S A FIRST FOR EVERYTHING.

THEY'RE KINDA *CLUTE* WHEN THEY'RE NOT TRYING TO RUN YOU OVER.



WE'VE GOT BIGGER PROBLEMS RIGHT NOW; AT THIS RATE, IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE THE FIRE BREAKS THROUGH HERE.

IT MIGHT BE FOR THE BEST TO CALL IT OFF AND FINISH THE EVACUATION.



I GUESS THAT'S IT FOR THE FOREST...



I... I'M SORRY I DRAGGED ALL OF YOU INTO THIS MESS.

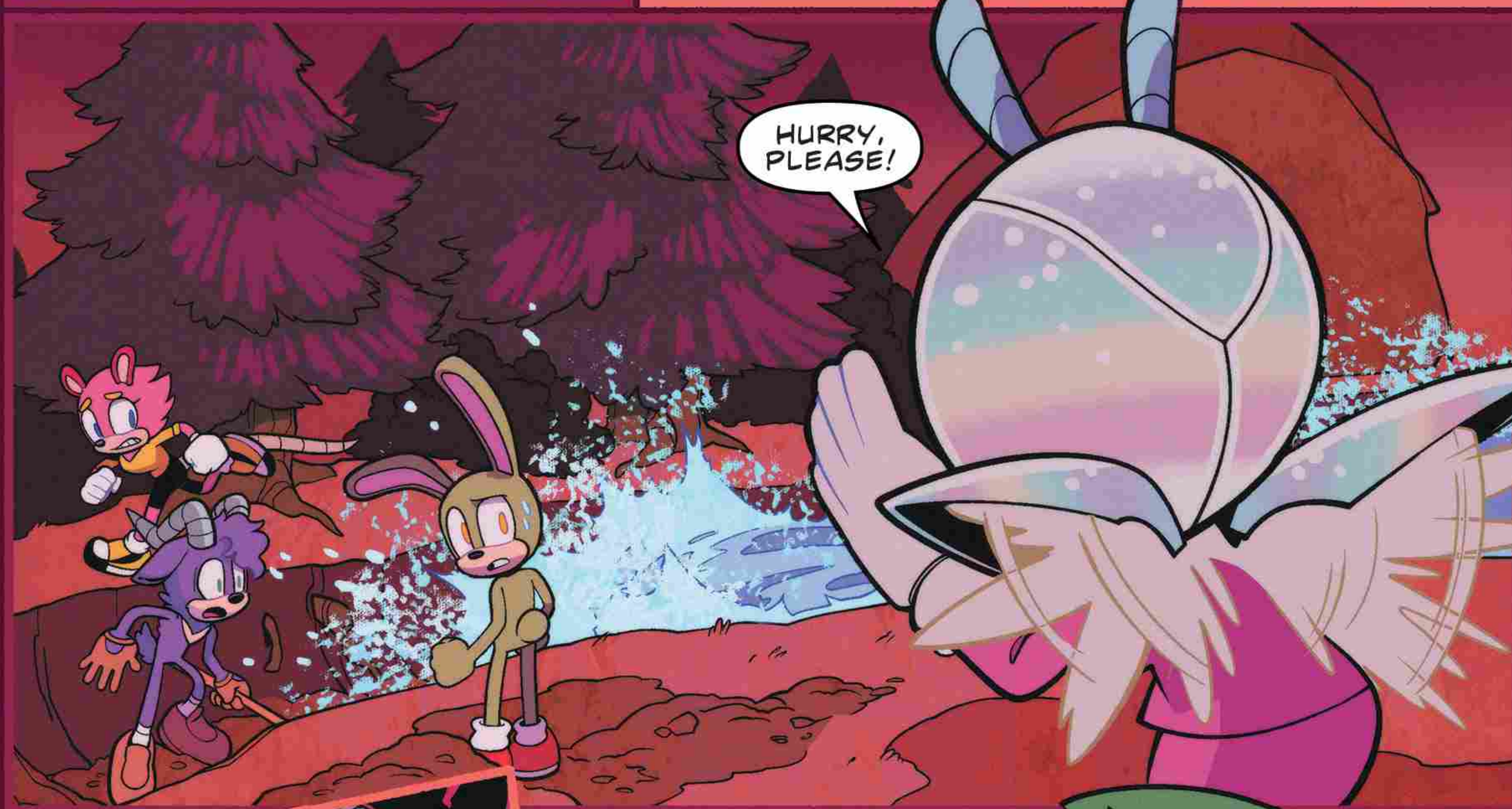
IF ANYBODY WANTS TO LEAVE, I WON'T BLAME YOU. BUT IF THERE'S ANY WAY LEFT TO FIGHT THE FIRE, I THINK WE'VE GOTTA TRY.

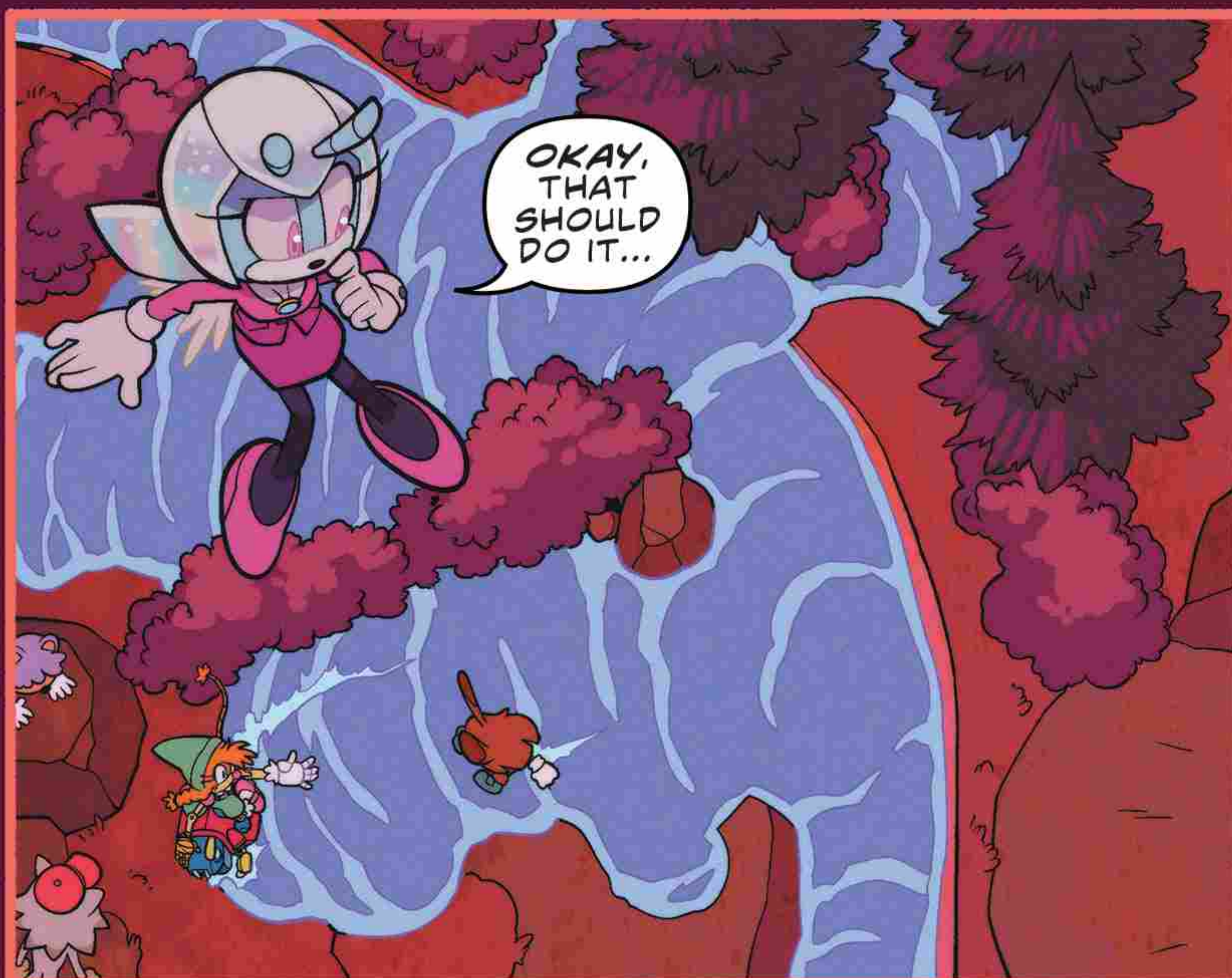


LET'S GO!

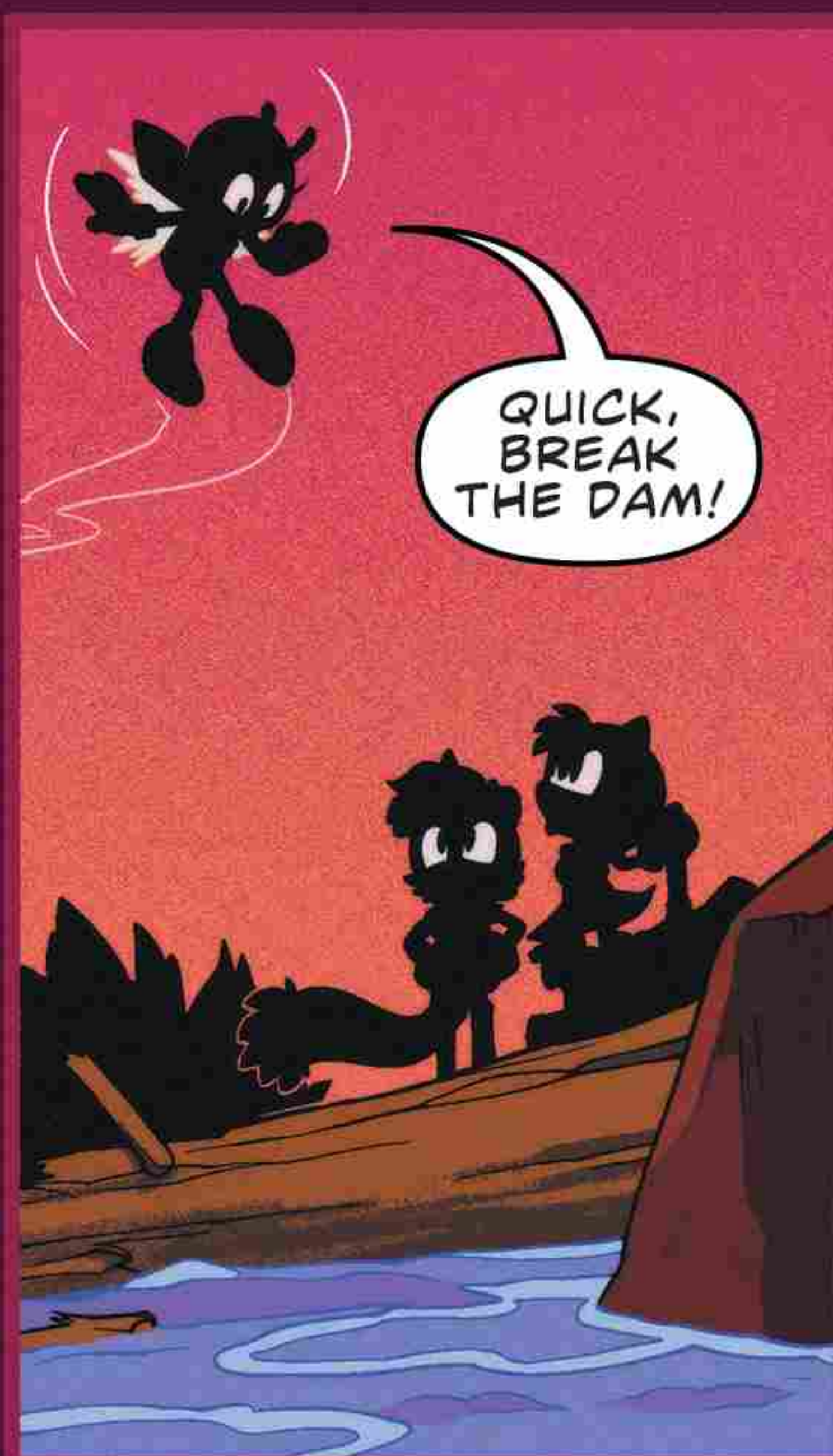








OKAY,
THAT
SHOULD
DO IT...



QUICK,
BREAK
THE DAM!



BREAK IT? I
DIDN'T ACTUALLY
THINK THAT FAR
AHEAD...

IT'S
NOTHING A
LITTLE
SMASHING
CAN'T FIX!



EVERYBODY
STAND BACK!



KYAH!

PIKO







UH...



THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT!
WELL IT IS, BUT NOT LIKE HOW IT--
--AH, GEEZ.

TANGLE.
IT'S OKAY.



I... I KNOW. THE RESTORATION HAS BEEN STIFLING YOU. BUT YOU STAYED, FOR ME.
AND I LET YOU DO IT, BECAUSE I WASN'T BRAVE ENOUGH TO GO IT ALONE...



I...

WHAT THE RESTORATION'S DOING... IT'S NOT FOR EVERYONE. THE WORLD NEEDS PEOPLE LIKE YOU TOO, TANGLE. SO EVEN IF YOU GO YOUR OWN WAY. IT'S OKAY. I'LL BE OKAY.

NO MATTER WHAT, I'M SO, SO PROUD OF YOU.



...THANKS, JEWEL.

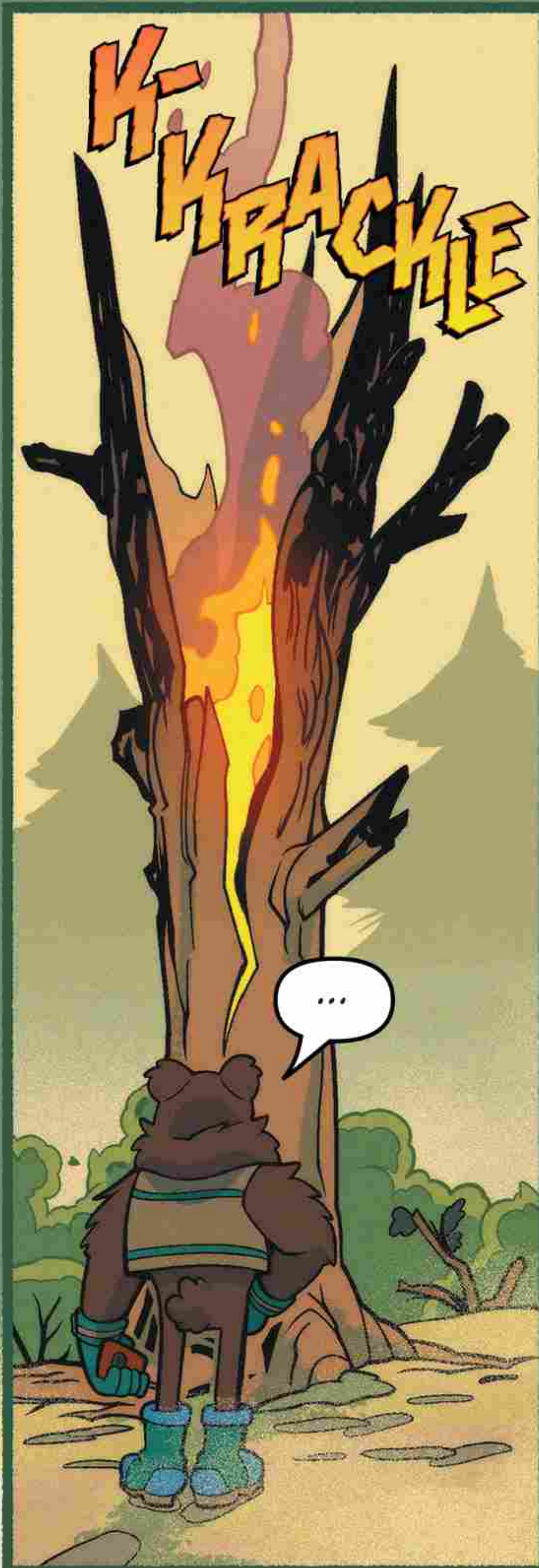




*STH: TANGLE AND WHISPER #4--EDS.







"...THIS WAS
NO ACCIDENT."



**NEXT TIME: THE CHAOTIX
ARE ON THE CASE!**



NEXT MONTH

CHAOTIX
CONFIDENTIAL
Presents...
VILLAINS
With FILTHY
FACES!

WANTED!
GI THIS WEIRD CREEP
TILL AT IT! STOP IT!
TODDY LIVES YOU!!!
CRIME
THE HESTERSON
MAY 1997

Welcome to
**CENTRAL
CITY!**

CHAOX
SPACE
CHAOX vs
CHAOX
SOON

SHU!!!

Sensational DRAMA AND SUSPENSE!

SONIC

LETTERS SQUAD

Hi, campers! Thank you for joining Evan Stanley, Matt Froese, Matt Herms, and Shawn Lee for the final part of “Trial By Fire”! Now, a special message from Evan Stanley!

Hi!

I asked my editors for a chance to write a letter in the back of this story, as the inspiration for “Trial by Fire” was especially personal to me. It’s the final form of a story I’ve wanted to tell for years. See, this arc was inspired by a real-life experience: when I was around 15, my family went on a whitewater rafting trip down the Rogue River in Oregon. Forest fires broke out on the surrounding mountainsides as we were deep in the wilderness and our only way out was through the rapids. Happily, we were all fine, and I got some great material to use all these years later!

But this is about more than an exciting adventure; the danger of forest fire is extremely real, and growing every year. While I was planning out the details of this arc in the summer of 2020, over 40,000 acres of the beautiful Redwood forests in my hometown’s mountains burned in a fire sparked by a dry lightning storm; an extreme weather event which, before the onset of climate change, was unheard of in the area. Not only were some of the world’s tallest and oldest trees destroyed, but thousands of people were displaced or left homeless... and this is only one of many similar events happening every year, all around the world. I hope that this story can serve as a reminder to respect the power of fire and the environment in our daily lives. Hopefully, in times of crisis we can work together to get through it, and safeguard ourselves and our world against more hurt.

And in the spirit of that, here’s a few safety tips to keep in mind:

Always fully extinguish campfires with water poured over and mixed with the ashes until it’s cold, or completely smothered with dirt.

Be mindful of how you handle fire and other ignition sources in your daily life, especially in dry areas where flammable material is plentiful.

Only start fires when and where it’s allowed. Look up fire safety rules for your local area before doing anything involving fire; there might be restrictions, or permits you need.

You may also be able to look up information on fire prevention, as well as preparation, evacuation, and ways to help your community in the event of fire.

Wildfires are made more likely by human impact on the environment; it’s good to learn about your local ecosystems and how you can fit into them.

Thank you so much for reading!

Evan Stanley
Artist/Writer

Thank you for joining us, Squad. Please don’t forget to send your art and letters to letters@idwpublishing.com, and make sure to mark them: “OKAY TO PRINT!” And join the IDW Sonic Comics Squad on Facebook! Next month, trouble in Central City and the Chaotix are on the case!



ART ADAM BRYCE THOMAS COLORS LEONARDO ITO



ART NATALIE HAINES



ART NATHALIE FOURDRAINE

SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG

IMPOSTER SYNDROME



MEET SURGE AND KIT

THEY'RE TEARING UP THE ROAD
TO SONIC THE HEDGEHOG'S
50TH ISSUE EXTRAVAGANZA IN THIS
EPIC 4-PART SPOFF SERIES!

IMPOSTER SYNDROME MINISERIES
SHIPPING BI-MONTHLY
BEGINNING IN NOVEMBER

WRITTEN BY IAN FLYNN
ART BY THOMAS ROTH LISBERGER

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